

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 ACDA-07 /090 W
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P R 021032Z JUN 77
FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6183
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 CAPE TOWN 0892

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SF
SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICA'S POST-VIENNA THEMES REITERATED

REF: (A) CAPE TOWN 0862, (B) CAPE TOWN 0878,

1. SUMMARY: SPEAKING AT REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS AROUND
SOUTH AFRICA MAY 31, GOVERNMENT LEADERS INCLUDING THE
PRIME MINISTER ADDRESSED ISSUES RELATED TO THE VIENNA TALKS.
SEVERAL THEMES MENTIONED IN REFTELS WERE EMPHASIZED BY MOST
IMPORTANT SPEAKERS: (1) THE COMMUNIST, AND MORE SPECI-
FICALLY RUSSIAN THREAT TO SOUTHERN AFRICA IS VERY GRAVE
AND SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED AND ACTED AGAINST; (2) IF
NECESSARY, SOUTH AFRICA IS WILLING AND ABLE TO STAND
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ALONE AGAINST OUTSIDE POWERS; (3) SOUTH AFRICA IS
UNWILLING TO GIVE IN TO QUOTE UNREASONABLE UNQUOTE AND
QUOTE SIMPLISTIC UNQUOTE DEMANDS (I.E. ONE-MAN-ONE-VOTE) FROM
EITHER SUPERPOWER, AND (4) SAG IS ABSOLUTELY CONVINCED OF
IMPORTANCE OF QUOTE ETHNICITY UNQUOTE AND QUOTE IDENTITY UNQUOTE
AND BELIEVES THAT MOVING AWAY FROM SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT,
WHICH PROTECTS THESE VALUES, WILL RESULT IN NATIONAL SUICIDE.

END SUMMARY.

2. PRIME MINISTER VORSTER'S REPUBLIC DAY ADDRESS

MAY 31 AT NATIONAL WOMEN'S MONUMENT IN BLOEMFONTEIN, ONE OF HOLY SHRINES OF AFRIKANERDOM, REITERATED FORCEFULLY MANY OF THEMES WHICH ARE BECOMING STANDARD SAG RESPONSE TO VIENNA MEETINGS. ALTHOUGH VORSTER DID NOT REFER SPECIFICALLY TO THE UNITED STATES, IT IS CLEAR THAT HIS STATEMENT WAS DIRECTLY INFLUENCED BY THE VIENNA MEETING AND WAS DESIGNED FOR EXTERNAL AS WELL AS INTERNAL CONSUMPTION. HE STATED AT THE OUTSET THAT HIS MESSAGE WAS MEANT FOR THE WHOLE OF AFRICA AND THE WESTERN WORLD AS WELL AS FOR SOUTH AFRICA. THE THRUST OF HIS MESSAGE WAS QUOTE IF YOU ALLOW THE RUSSIAN IMPERIALISM TO ENGULF YOU, YOU WILL NEVER AGAIN BE ABLE TO THROW OFF THAT YOKE. THAT IS THE MESSAGE TO THE WORLD AND TO AFRICAN STATES WHO CONTINUALLY TALK ABOUT CONIALISM AND IMPERIALISM: IF YOU DON'T WAKE UP YOU CAN BECOME THE VICTIM OF THAT IMPERIALISM. THIS HAS ALREADY HAPPENED TO ANGOLA, ZAIRE (SIC) AND ETHIOPIA. THEY WERE VICTIMS AND WHILE THE WEST WAS LOOKING ON, MORE STATES MAY BECOME VICTIMS. SOUTH AFRICA, WHICH WAS PROBABLY ONE OF THE FIRST COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD TO RISE AGAINST IMPERIALISM, HAS A MESSAGE FOR THE LUKE-WARM WEST AND AFRICA: THERE IS ONLY ONE ENMY THREATENING US AND THE WEST AND THAT IS RUSSIA. ITS FINAL AIM IS THE DESTRUCTION OF THE TRADIONAL STRUCTURES OF AFRICA UNQUOTE. VORSTER EXPANDED ON THIS THEME BY SAYING SOUTH AFRICA HAS BEEN SINGLED OUT BY RUSSIA SINCE IT STOOD FIRMLY AGAINST COMMUNISM. RUSSIA HAD SUCCEDED IN MAKING SOUTH AFRICA SUSPECT IN THE MINDS OF SOME NATIONS WHICH WOULD NORMALLY BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOUTH AFRICA'S ALLIES, BUT FORTUNATELY MORE AND MORE LEADERS WERE BEGINNING TO RECOGNIZE THE DANGERS OF COMMUNIST IMPERIALISM. VORSTER STATED HIS CONVICTION THAT SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLE, QUOTE AFRIKAANS AND ENGLISH SPEAKING, WHITE AND BLACK, WILL FIGHT FOR THAT WHICH BELONGS TO US UNQUOTE. HE CONCLUDED WITH HIS BELIEF THAT QUOTE WE STILL HAVE A CALLING TO FULFILL IN SOUTH AFRICA AND AFRICA UNQUOTE AND THAT QUOTE OUR FOREBEARERS FACED MORE DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES THAN TODAY UNQUOTE.

3. STATE PRESIDENT NICO DIEDERICH, IN HIS REPUBLIC DAY ADDRESS TOUCHED ON MANY OF SAME THEMES. HE SAID THAT A QUOTE DANGEROUS THREAT TO SOUTH AFRICA IS THE DICTATORSHIP DEVELOPING AMONG THE SUPERNATIONS OF THE WORLD. THESE BIG NATIONS WHO PRESCRIBE TO SMALLER NATIONS AND COUNTRIES ARE OPERATING WITH NO BELIEF IN MORALITY AT ALL UNQUOTE. HE ALSO SAID THAT DEMOCRACY IN THE FREE WORLD IS ON THE DECLINE AND THAT MANY OTHER COUNTRIES IN ADDITION TO SOUTH AFRICA ARE THREATENED. HE CRITICIZED UNNAMED QUOTE SUPER-NATIONS UNQUOTE AND

THEIR SO-CALLED ATTEMPTS TO PRESERVE WORLD MORALITY.

4. ANDRIES TREURNICHT, DEPUTY MINISTER OF BANTU ADMINISTRATION AND LEADING CONSERVATIVE IN THE CABINET, EMPHASIZED PRIMARILY THE THEME OF THE IMPORTANCE OF QUOTE IDENTITY UNQUOTE. STATING THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS A QUOTE NATION OF NATIONS UNQUOTE, TREURNICHT CONTENDED THAT LOSS OF A SINGLE ETHNIC GROUP'S IDENTITY QUOTE WOULD AMOUNT TO NATIONAL SUICIDE AND SOUTH AFRICA IS NOT PREPARED TO DO THIS UNQUOTE. HE STATED HIS CONVICTION THAT SOUTH AFRICA MUST NOT MAKE CONCESSIONS TO QUOTE BLACKMAILERS UNQUOTE, BUT MUST CONTINUE ON ITS PRESENT COURSE AND MAKE THOSE CHANGES WHICH ARE QUOTE GOOD AND NECESSARY UNQUOTE.

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5. FOREIGN MINISTER PIK BOTHA SPOKE ON NATIONAL TELEVISION EVENING OF MAY 31 ON SUBJECT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND U.S. REITERATING AGAIN POINTS AND THEMES MADE SINCE HIS RETURN FROM VIENNA, BOTHA SEIZED UPON VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S STATEMENT THAT QUOTE FULL

PARTICIPATION UNQUOTE IS THE SAME AS ONE-MAN-ONE-VOTE
TO TRY TO DEMONSTRATE UNREASONABLENESS OF U.S. POSITION.
HE SAID QUOTE ALL THE TIME THEY MAKE CONCESSIONS ON
THE RADICAL SIDE AND THEN SOUTH AFRICA IS SUPPOSED TO
COME UP WITH SOLUTIONS THAT WILL SUIT THAT KIND OF THING. WE
CANNOT DO IT, AND THEY OUGHT TO KNOW IT UNQUOTE. BOTHA ALSO
SPOKE OF NEED FOR PEACEFUL CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA, WITH
QUALIFICATION THAT THIS MEANT QUOTE THOSE CHANGES WHICH WE BELIEVE
IN QUNQUOTE AND NOT STEPS WHICH WOULD LEAD TO SELF-DESTRUCTION.
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6. COMMENT: AS A WHOLE, WEEKEND SPEECHES PLAY
HEAVILY ON SEVERAL THEMES WHICH HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY
COMMON SINCE VIENNA MEETING. THIS CONFIRMS EMBASSY
INITIAL IMPRESSION (CAPE TOWN 0862) THAT POST VIENNA
SOUTH AFRICAN POSITION WILL CRYSTALIZE AROUND THESE
BASIC IDEAS. AT PRESENT MOST EMPHASIS IS ON THEME OF
COMMUNIST THREAT, POINTING OUT INCREASING DANGER OF
RUSSIAN IMPERIALISM IN AFRICA AND LAMENTING WEST'S
UNWILLINGNESS TO ACT IN THE FACE OF THIS. INHERENT IN
THIS IS THE BELIEF THAT SOUTH AFRICA HAS BEEN SINGLED
OUT AS A SPECIAL TARGET BY THE SOVIET UNION. SPEAKERS
HAVE ALSO CONSISTENTLY MADE POINT THAT SOUTH AFRICA CAN
AND WILL STAND ALONE IF NECESSARY. COUPLED TO SOME
EXTENT TO THE COMMUNIST THREAT IDEA, A MEASURE OF
RESENTMENT AND DEFIANCE TOWARD THE WEST, AND IN
PARTICULAR THE UNITED STATES, IS BEGINNING TO EMERGE
MORE CLEARLY AMONG SAG SUPPORTERS. U.S. QUOTE DEMANDS
UNQUOTE HAVE REPEATEDLY BEEN LABELED QUOTE UNREASONABLE
UNQUOTE AND QUOTE SIMPLISTIC UNQUOTE. SOME SPEECHES
AND NEWS EDITORIALS HAVE BEGUN TO LINK THE U.S. AND
THE SOVIET UNION AND CONDEMN QUOTE SUPER-POWERS UNQUOTE
IN GENERAL FOR THEIR INTERFERENCE IN SOUTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS.
FINALLY, THE THEME THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS CHANGING AND
WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO AT ITS OWN PACE AND IN ITS OWN
WAY IS RECEIVING INCREASING EMPHASIS, IN PART CERTAINLY
AS AN ATTEMPT TO SHOW BOTH INTERNAL AND INTERNATIONAL
OBSERVERS THAT SOUTH AFRICA'S POSITION IS NOT AN
INTRANSIGENT OR UNREASONABLE ONE. WE EXPECT TO BE
HEARING MANY MORE SPEECHES REITERATING THESE THEMES.BOWDLER

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